FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Term 4, as we have come to expect, has had its usual hectic beginning. On the first pupil free day the teachers undertook a detailed analysis of the NAPLAN results and on the second were presented with some very interesting professional learning on the teaching of grammar. I am confident this is going to have a very positive impact on the children’s understanding of what is often quite a difficult subject.

Preparations for the athletics carnival was the next important priority. We are really looking forward to the competition today and hope we can carry our talents through to interschool.

Later on in the term we have some interesting activities with one incursion in particular sure to have the children enthralled. Also, in the very near future the elections for school captains and faction captains will take place. For 2014 we will have ten captains each from both Year 7 and Year 6.

NAPLAN RESULTS
I mentioned briefly in the last newsletter that our NAPLAN results were looking very positive. On close analysis this indeed turned out to be the case. We were really pleased to notice the improvements many of the children have made since their last test. It is of interest to note that we have outperformed ‘like schools’ (those in similar socio-economic scenarios) in all areas tested. Our success is really due to three important factors. Firstly we have hard working children who have strong family support. We also have in place educational programs which include ‘best practice’ teaching strategies and an excellent group of very professional teachers. It is a real pleasure for me to congratulate the children and thank the teachers for the commitment they have given to our objective of providing every child with an opportunity to reach their potential.

CYBER SAFETY
I’m sure there would be few of us who were involved in the Cyber Safety talks on Monday who wouldn’t have found it very informative. Kerry Hargrave from ACMA (Australian Communications and Media Authority) began working with the Year 4/5 children and had a second session with the Year 6/7’s. It is not surprising to note that the children were very familiar with the internet process. It was of interest, however, that there were quite a few points regarding cyber safety that the children were not aware of. Following the children’s workshops Kerry presented to the staff then in the evening to a group of parents. Important messages for us as parents were to take charge of the situation and get computers out of the bedroom. If you are not already aware there is an excellent website which has considerable information to support children and help parents with the many issues that arise regarding cyber safety. It is http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/.

SCIENCE
Rostrata has again been selected as a Teacher Development School in science. This role involves our teachers Mr Johnson and Miss Johnson providing professional learning and ideas for staff from other schools. We are delighted to have been selected again and will do our best to continue to spread the good word about ‘best practice’ science in schools.

Tom Campbell
Principal
Voluntary Contributions and Charges

A reminder that some families have voluntary contributions outstanding. Payment would enable us to use these funds for the benefit of this year’s students.
We also ask for student accounts to show a credit balance so that as incursions/excursions etc arise funds are already on the account to cover the cost involved. Having the account in credit saves considerable time in the front office, and saves you from finding small amounts of cash several times a year.
If you are unsure, please contact the school office and we will be able to advise you of your credit balance.

Helen Scott, Registrar

SCHOOL BOARD

Our next School Board meeting will be held on November 4th at 7 pm.
This meeting will be held in the library and is one with an open invitation to all who would like to attend.
If you would like to know more about the Board's activities, please come along.

Change of Bank Account

The school has changed it's bank account; for those who have our bank account details, please update them to:

Rostrata Primary School
BSB: 066 040
Account #: 1990 4664

Leaving Rostrata?

Will your child be attending Rostrata Primary School in 2014?
To assist with class allocations for next year, please call into the school office and sign a clearance form if your child will be leaving Rostrata Primary School.
This includes current Year 6 students who will attend private secondary schools from Year 7.
Thank you!

School of Instrumental Music (SIM)

Strings Program

During Term 4 the children in Years 2 and 3 will be participating in the School of Instrumental Music test. This enables us to select students to participate in the violin (Year 2) and cello (Year 3) instrumental programs in 2014.
Final selections are not made until early Term 1, 2014.

Leanne Rankin and Kendall Genders
Music Teachers

Thank you to Willetton Senior High School staff, Phil Sherwood and Sue Holland, for their presentation to our Years 5 and 6 parents on their transition to WSHS in 2015.
It was a very informative session appreciated by a large audience.
IN THE GARDEN......with Mrs Martini

Thanks to the Chappell, Shearer, Hodgen and Keeley families for looking after the chickens in the holidays. Unfortunately we had some vandals enter the garden on two Saturday evenings, when they took two chickens. Fortunately one has been returned to us. Thanks to the Shearers for providing an extra lock and chain for the chicken run.

Thanks to Rick Walker for donating a lawn mower to the garden; much needed at this time of the year. If you have an hour to spare and are happy to do a bit of lawn mowing in the kitchen garden....

The rains have kept the garden growing nicely but while the reticulation is being repaired we are learning how to hand water efficiently and why we do a deep water rather than a quick daily one – it encourages the roots to seek water further down in the soil away from the heat of the sun.

During the holidays Graham Peterson laid more paths with our second hand pavers and thanks to the generosity of the P&C we have been able to arrange the completion of the rest of the paths which will start at the end of November.

The year 7s are being assessed and from the best groups we will choose guides to show the year 3s around the garden in readiness for 2014. Mr Baugh’s class has nearly completed the construction of a new herb garden and C1’s banana circle is now finished.

The Chicken Roster

We are looking for families to help with the chickens on the weekends in Term 4 and school holidays over Christmas. Remember no experience needed. Ring or SMS Karina on 0427 586 139.

Alyssum and calendula are great vegetable garden companions.

IN THE KITCHEN... ...with Mrs Richards

What amazing broad beans from the garden this week! We made a delicious old family recipe of mine, Italian Broad Beans and Onion, which was appreciated by all.

Students learnt how to cook broad beans, garlic and onion so the sweetness of the vegetables prevailed, delicious!! Our salads once again impressed all the volunteers. The addition of strawberries, orange and apple-mint in the dressing gave a fruity flavour. Silver beet and European spinach gave a delicious touch to frittata this week. Our gorgeous eggs were well used, needing ten per dish.

What you can do to help!

Help out on the weekends or Term 3 holidays looking after the chickens.

Buy Worm Wiz from outside the front office. $1 for 2 litres. Instructions for how to use it are on our webpage at http://rostratagarden.weebly.com/garden-hints.html

Gardening Timetable
http://rostratagarden.weebly.com/links.html

Do you know when your child is in the garden? Use the link above to help you work out which week is gardening or cooking so that you can help out.
UNIFORM SHOP

Leavers 2014 Shirts/Jackets

Fittings for 2014 Year 6’s (currently Year 5’s) will be held at the canteen on Monday 4th November, from 2.30pm - 3.30pm.

Fittings for 2014 Year 7’s (currently Year 6’s) will be held at the canteen on Wednesday 6th November, from 2.30pm - 3.30pm.

Parents do NOT have to attend as we will have parent helpers available to give your child advice. Order forms and payment MUST be brought along as we will not order your shirt if you have not paid. Please do not hand me money around the school but bring to the canteen on the day of the fitting.

Once the shirts/jackets have been ordered they will be sent to the printers. We hope to have them back by the end of the year and deliver them directly to your child’s class.

If your child is currently Year 6 and is attending another school in Year 7, but has attended Rostrata most of their school years, you are quite welcome to still have their name put on the shirt and to place an order as a remembrance of their time at Rostrata. Thank You.

Melissa Giles
0408 022 112
giles1@iinet.net.au

GROUNDS

Thanks Again!
Another Busy Bee was held on the last Friday of the holidays to help Possum finish off the playground area alongside A9, A10 and A11. The Dads worked hard to lay some pavers whilst the mums and the kids worked especially super hard to mulch a large area that had recently been curbed. A big thankyou to the following families: Hodgen, Briefies, Bloxham and Trehella.

SCHOOL BANKING

Due to unavoidable circumstances last Wednesday, we were unable to hold our school banking session and apologise to the students that came along to do their banking.

The headphones are now available for redemption with your tokens. Please note that next year the popular Dollarmite money boxes of Spen, Addy, Pat the Dog, Cred and Pru will not be available, so if you would like one, please make sure you redeem your tokens this year.

Please ensure all deposit slips are completed prior to coming to school banking as we are getting quite busy and it saves a little time.

School banking is held every Wednesday in the undercover area from 8am to 8.45am. If you would like to avoid the queue please come before 8.30am or we have our express banking box where you can drop your banking off and we will return your bank book to you on Thursday morning. Express bankers please ensure all deposit slips are completed and your class number recorded on the front of your banking wallet.

It appears a deposit slip was not removed from a bank book on the last banking day of last term; parents please check your child’s book to see if there is a deposit slip left in there by accident as we have some funds that have not yet been allocated. Should you have any queries, please contact Natalie on 0418 928 867. Thank you.

School Banking Team

FUNDRAISING

One for your diaries: the end-of-year disco will be on Friday 22nd November 2013.
Junior Session - Kindy to Year 3 only - 5.30 to 7pm sharp.
Senior Session - Years 4 to 7 only - 7.30 to 9pm sharp.
We hope to see you there!
ROSTRATA PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 7 GRADUATION CELEBRATION DINNER
(Coordinated by the P&C)

Friday, December 6th 2013

We wish to remind parents & carers that payment for your child’s ticket to the Year 7 Graduation Celebration Dinner is now due for payment. Ticket cost is $45.00 per child and can be paid either by EFT to the Rostrata Primary School P&C Association Inc.

BSB: 036 081
ACCOUNT: 790597
REFERENCE: Child’s Surname & GRAD

OR

by CASH through the Front Office P&C Post Box

Please clearly mark your envelope ‘Graduation’

Please note ALL Graduation Celebration Permission Slips & Medical Consent forms MUST BE SIGNED & RETURNED through the Front Office P & C Post Box.

We are aiming to achieve 100% attendance from our Year 7 students and ask parents to encourage their child to attend for an evening of fun, food, friendships and festivities.

If further information is required please contact
Deb Chappell – 0400 237 256 or Nicola McPartland – 0407 594 221

YEARBOOK
(Coordinated by the P&C)

ATTENTION ALL YEAR 7 STUDENTS!

If you have not yet returned your student profile questionnaire for inclusion in the Class of 2013 Yearbook, please take ten minutes to complete the questionnaire and place it in the Graduation Box located in your classroom. If you have lost your profile sheet please ask your teacher to call Mrs Nicola McPartland who will gladly drop one into your classroom.

There are still some Year 7 students who have not provided a photo of themselves aged around 5 years old for inclusion in the yearbook. Please drop the photo into the box located in your classroom. All photos will be returned to families.

This is the last chance your child will have to include their primary school memories/dreams in the Class of 2013 Yearbook, so families we encourage you all to please make the effort to provide any outstanding information.

Any queries may be directed to:
Deb Chappell – 0400 237 256 or Nicola McPartland – 0407 594 221
Term 4 Canteen News

Welcome to Term 4 in the Canteen! Don’t forget that the menu has changed to the SUMMER MENU for Term 4 and Term 1 - you can find it on the school website. We have a range of fantastic new meal deals so please check out the menu. If you have a few hours to spare on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning, we would love your company - our friendly and jovial staff in the canteen can always use another pair of hands, and your children will also love having you at the counter and will receive a free cheesy!!

You can still order your lunches through the online system of mykidslunchbox.com.au - thankyou to all those families who continue to find this system a much easier way to place orders without the hassle of handling money.

Looking forward to a fantastic term ahead. Enjoy!!

VacSwim Dec/Jan School Holiday programs

VacSwim enrolments for 2013 - 14 January programs are now open. Swimming pools and beaches are part of our Western Australian lifestyle. It is important for every child to learn to swim properly and develop essential water safety skills. VacSwim’s school holiday swimming program is conducted by qualified instructors who teach children the skills to be confident swimmers and safe in the water.

For further information and how to enrol, visit www.det.wa.edu.au/swimming.

How to get started before using our programs you must register online for an account. Registering is quick and easy. Visit our website to begin www.campaustralia.com.au

Once registered you can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day online. Keep in mind we are able to take bookings at short notice to help busy families.

Save on Care You can save 50% or more on Before and After School Care fees with the non-means tested Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible.

To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343 Monday to Friday.
The following items are mentioned as community news and are not school endorsed activities.

Tennis @ Rostrata
Term 4 dates Tuesdays 22/10/13-19/11/13. $60 for a 5 week program. Racquets supplied.
Registration forms in the school office.
For further information call Tony Brown on 9525 0046 or 0404 516 370.

Rossmyrne Swimming Club
2013-2014 season opening soon.
Improve your swimming strokes and times with fully qualified teachers.
Lynwood Senior High School, 25 metre outdoor pool.
For more information, visit: rossmyneswimming.myclub.org.au

Swan Festival of Lights
Celebrating Deepavali Together
1-3 November
Supreme Court Gardens
Cuisine/Dance & music/Cultural & health workshops/
Nightly fireworks
www.sfoli.com.au

John Curtin College of the Arts
Gifted and Talented Arts Program
Important information for students entering high school in Year 7 2015. Significant changes have been implemented to ensure your child is prepared for entry into Gifted and Talented Selective Entrance programs in high school from 2015.
The application, testing and placement process is open to all students in Year 6 2014.

Key Events and Scheduled Dates
- October 1 2013—Applications Open
- February 10 2014—Applications Close
- March 15 2014—Academic testing
- May 9 2014—Academic Performance Reports
- July 2014—Placements finalised

Register your interest NOW online at http://www.det.wa.edu.au/curriculumsupport/giftedandtalented/detcms/portal/

College tour day for Year 5 students and parents
4.30pm October 29
Please book for the tour by calling the college on 9433 7200 or email: johncurtin.col@education.wa.edu.au

Where Can I Play Cricket?
Register at your local club and play cricket this Summer.
Fast, active, energetic games are now available for boys and girls aged 5 years and up.
Find Your local club at: www.waca.com.au

Parent Child Connection
Monday 18th November x 4 weeks 6.30-9 @ 15 Cambridge Street, West Leederville.
Raising children should be one of life’s greatest experiences, but as any parent knows, it is not an easy task. People with children under ten are invited to this four-week course to learn new skills, feel better about their parenting and gain confidence. For further information and to enrol please phone 9489 6322.

Kids and Today's Technology
Thursday 21st and 28th November 6.30 - 9 @ 15 Cambridge Street, West Leederville
This two week course is for parents of kids between ages 2 and 18 years. Technology is now being used by very young children and most teenagers are proficient users of many aspects of technology. Your knowledge of what's out there, how it's being used and how you manage it in your home will have a direct impact on your kids' learning and safety. For further information and to enroll please phone 9489 6322.

Take Home a Big Brother or Sister
Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in February 2014 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from Germany, Italy, Finland, Colombia and Mexico will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

Free e-Waste Recycling
There has never been a better time to safely dispose of your unwanted televisions, computers and IT accessories. This free collection even will ensure a responsible recycling approach and keep valuable materials out of landfill.

Where: Regional Resource Recovery Centre
350 Banister Road, Canning Vale

When: Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th October
9am to 4pm

For more event details, please visit www.apple.com/au/ewaste or phone 1800 334 776
Next workshops start Saturday 9 Nov in Osborne Park!

Is your child a cookie monster?

Healthy Families for Happy Futures

Do you want your family to make healthy lifestyle choices but not sure how?
Join our FREE workshops for parents and children. Access to a nutritionist, physiotherapist and psychologist.

Phone 9201 0044 or email info@pnml.com.au

Healthy Families for Happy Futures in an initiative of Perth North Metro Medicare Local with funding support from the Australian Government.